

Quarterly Journal of the Socialist Party of Canada

Vol. 12 No. 2

# Socialist Fulcrum

VOLUNTEER  
SOCIALIST  
PRODUCTION

For A Wageless World Of Voluntary Co-operation And Free Access  
Through Common Ownership and Democratic Control

40¢

## ALCOHOLISM UNDER RUSSIAN CAPITALISM

CAPITALISM'S

VIOLENCE



FAMINE

REVOLUTION

BRITAIN'S USELESS CLASS

RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL DICTATORSHIPS



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor  
Victoria Times

Convincing the ordinary people that the present form of social organization is the best one possible has been a generally successful process to date. However, convincing me have-nots that their shrinking portion of social wealth should shrink further in the cause of greater profits for the employing class may be less than a lead-pipe cinch. None the less, the owners of the means of life consider it worth a try, and one of their mouthpieces, masquerading as a paragon of social interest, is anxious to help. In the May 17 Times, the chairman of the national commission on inflation warns workers not to peg their pay to rising prices or to the improved profits of 1978, or prices will increase further.

Harold Renough urged naughty workers with wage parity thoughts to refrain from trying to get a bigger slice of the pie before it's baked. He ignored the fact that since those who bake the pie received a smaller slice in the last couple of years, the chance is scanty of them regaining the decimated part of their ration, let alone increasing them.

His well worn deception that high wages cause or contribute to inflation when real wages have fallen, is from the bottom of the barrel. Neither is there a general excess of demand over supply in the market place causing price rises. The basic cause is government currency devaluation. According to Bank of Canada figures, the federal government issued a quantity of paper tokens, inconvertible to gold, 3.15 times in excess of Gross National Product growth between 1954 and 1970. It has continued its fight against real wages via the monetary printing press while proudly "fighting inflation". The government could cause prices to fall anytime it thought currency devaluation might enhance the general profit picture. Any government could.

For instance, in pre-World War II days, prices never rose in opposition to falling demand because there was no currency devaluation. Again, in England, between the Battle of Waterloo and the start of World War I, prices were more or less stable, in spite of "greedy workers" because there was no denaturing of currency. Voters' memories of the Weimar Republic's paper avalanche has forced West German governments to keep inflation down to 4 or 5 percent. And in high wage Switzerland there is no inflation because currency devaluation is nil.

Hopefully, more Canadian pre producers will perceive this deception. More importantly, it is hoped they will realize that it is practical for society to own and control the bakery.

J.G. Jenkins, 1090 Lodge Ave., Victoria, B.C.

Socialist Fulcrum in  
- TORONTO - available at  
PUSHKINS'S DEPOT,  
2102 Queen St. E.

Editor  
Dear Sir:

Election campaigns offer the ordinary person something like a choice between which pill might alleviate a chronic headache. Put your X on the party which could cause least pain, if it does not result in making the migraine worse.

(1) For instance, most voters may long for a full, creative life, but the questionable option offered is merely a choice between drudging for wages or boring idleness while unemployed.

(2) Another no-choice is employment, which means less poverty than UIC. Income from neither can account for one's needs, as the present \$24 billion plus consumer debt indicates, (exclusive of home mortgages). People have borrowed on future wages to finance their current inadequate consumption.

(3) Energy is another item offered to voters in any color they want, so long as it is black. The common denominator being not what society requires, but the cheaper, dangerous and profitable energy necessary to keeping this money system staggering along.

(4) Union leaders too, do not choose a party that will solve the problems of workers. As a Saskatchewan Federation of Labor member said recently, they try to choose a party "...that will attack us the least", if it becomes the government.

All of the major parties and all but one of the minor ones remain silent about the strangle-hold that a small minority maintains over the means of life. The most that the boss of what people have been told is Canada's Socialist Party could say when he confronted Trudeau and Clark on TV was that the NDP was in bed with the Liberals less than the Tories were.

Also, the program of Canada's Moscow "Communist" Party is indistinguishable from that of the Progressive-Conservative Party, and the Peking "Communist" Party pushes conservatism with violence. A tinkering with effects while ignoring the social cause of those effects was not practical, these problems would have stopped blighting our lives a long time ago.

There is a Party which urges people to increase their understanding of the present social organization instead of trusting leaders. It is known as the Socialist Party of Canada and it insists that the issue in every election is common (not state) ownership and democratic control of the means of life, not trying to run the profit system in the interest of its victims. Further information about a rationally organized society may be obtained from:

Socialist Party of Canada, Box 426,  
Station A, Victoria, B.C., V8L 1A3  
J.T. Lambie  
641 Jones Terrace  
Victoria, B.C.

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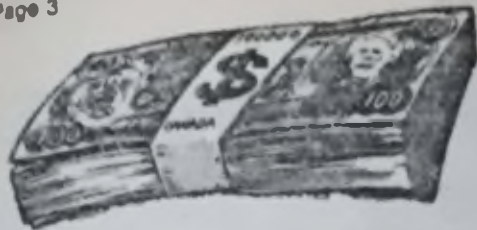
## THE WAY SOCIETY IS

"I am here to maximize profits," says a Montreal executive. "That's my aim as the shareholders - the owners of the business. If I do that and keep with the law then I'm filling my function. If I had to bring in a new machine to lay off profits and lay off a bunch of workers, that's too bad. I feel sorry for the workers; I don't like laying them off, but I wouldn't be doing my job if I kept them on. If I have to give a crooked politician something to get a much-needed contract then I do it. I didn't make the politician crooked, I don't like him, but that's the way society is. I have to operate within that society the best way I can. I might like to stand up and scream and the evils of life. But it's not my job to be a hero. My job is to keep the company going." (Star Weekly, Feb. 22/84)

## Question

Does your local bookstore or newsstand carry the Socialist Fulcrum? If not, bother your bookseller.





## FAMINE



Words are inadequate to describe the utter horror of famine and starvation in a world of plenty. One can imagine the helplessness and agony, and the broken spirit and grief at seeing loved ones wasting away to death. At various times you have seen their emaciated bodies and pathetic faces staring at you from the newspapers; babies, children, mothers, fathers, all wasting away in pain and suffering and facing the stark reality that some of them, if not all, are going to die; so when you read the word "famine" in this article, you will know that it describes human suffering and poverty at its worst.

Throughout the years various conferences have been held, and fine words have been spoken of famine, food and population growth, but the results of these conferences have hardly been a success; in fact they have failed abysmally. One wonders whether the delegates go there with "tongue in cheek", as these conferences will always fail, for society is geared to make profits, and the needs of the starving poverty stricken will be ignored.

When the facts are dug up, it is terrifying the widespread misery that capitalism creates in its insatiable appetite for profits.

In the National Geographic July 1975, Steve Raymer in his article The Nightmare of Famine wrote:

"Despite loss of foodstuffs, however, there is an estimated four million tons of rice in Bangladesh during the famine - enough to feed the entire nation for a third of the year. But the vast majority of the people, subsisting at the poverty level in the best of times and now victimized by the flooding, are too poor to buy it!"

"Relief officials tell of widespread smuggling of rice into neighbouring India where it sells for up to twice as much. Hoarders at home drive rice beyond 50 cents a pound in a country with a per capital income of \$70 a year, among the world's lowest."

The news media is inclined to dwell on the poverty and starvation of the under developed countries, and consequently we are led to believe that no one need starve in highly industrialized countries, yet the U.S. Bureau of Census in 1972 stated that 10 to 12 million Americans are starving or sick, because they have too little to spend on food. One wonders how many are starving in other industrialized countries, for the U.N. claims that one out of eight people of the world is literally starving, and almost half suffer from malnutrition of one kind or another.

It is frequently postulated that the pressure of population is the cause of famine and starvation, but India's misguided efforts at population control in an attempt to alleviate or

prevent famine have been phenomenal, and the results have created further widespread misery.

The outlay for family planning in five successive Five Year Plans has zoomed from a mere million and a half rupees in the first plan to \$60 million in the current (1974-79) budget - an increase of nearly 2,700 per cent.

The Indian government has handed out free condoms; paid bounties to doctors and health workers for sterilization purposes; has raised the legal marriage age for men and women, and runs mass vasectomy camps. The goal was 25 births per thousand by 1980, but the rural birth rate has been hovering around 38 to 39 per thousand for several years now and shows no signs of a rapid decline.

In their struggle for survival it is imperative for Indian women and those living under similar rural areas, to have children. Although most mothers living under these conditions have only a 50/50 chance of seeing their children live beyond the age of 5; besides their family, who else will work the land. It is a situation which the Indian government has aggravated rather than alleviated the condition leading to widespread famine in India.

It should be obvious that attempts at, or restriction of population is not the answer. Capitalism is not a philanthropic society, for food is bought and sold and not freely delivered where it is needed. It is frequently destroyed on a mass scale in order to create a demand to maintain or increase its price, even when there is famine in some part of the world, and food has been destroyed or traded away in the very country where people are starving.

There are many self-styled experts who claim that production of food cannot keep up with the increasing population of the world. This is a fallacious argument, for this simple fact is conveniently overlooked; vast areas of land throughout the world are lying fallow.

Frances Moore Lappé and Joseph Collins in Food First, page 15 wrote: "many forget that in Africa and Latin America much good land is left unplanted by large landowners. A study of Columbia in 1960 showed that while farmers owning up to about thirteen acres farmed two thirds of their land, the largest farmers, controlling 70 per cent of the agriculture surface, actually cultivated only 6 percent of their land. Although Columbia is an extreme example, this pattern is found throughout Latin America. Only 14 percent of Ecuador's tillable land is cultivated."

It is commonly known for many years in America that some farmers have been paid by the government not to grow crops.

With modern scientific methods food can be

produced in abundance. Japan's food grain yield per acre is five times that of India, yet in the past their food production was inferior to those of northern India.

If there is any doubt that a food problem exists, other than that engendered by capitalism, the following should eradicate any such idea: At the second International Agriculture Aviation Conference held in Paris in 1962 Dr. Mann, the director of the centre at the Hague was reported by The Times as saying:

"The world's population, now a little over 2,000 million was expected to reach 6,000 million in the not very distant future. It has been calculated that the earth could support a population of 28,000 million if food production were organized on lines now known to be practicable."

It is a frightening prospect that food production will never be organized for the benefit of the world's population while we live under capitalist society, in which profits are the only criteria.

S. Carr

1, 2, 3. Susan George, How The Other Half Dies, pages 31, 61 and 62

### AN OVERPOPULATION PROBLEM? NOT ENOUGH RESOURCES?

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A Tucson, Arizona Radio Broadcast

## !!!!!!!!!!!!!! VIOLENCE !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The subject of violence covers a wide spectrum of social questions ranging from the attitude of the socialist towards violence in regard to the attainment of socialism, to the multitude of its manifestations within capitalist society.

Violence envelopes our lives, contaminates our environment, and should we be unfortunate it could ultimately cripple or destroy us. The socialist takes the position that the nature of capitalism and the way it functions is the prime cause of violence, and that violence is inseparable from all systems that are based upon private property, and that there is no adequate solution to this social evil within the framework of our present system. Let us examine specifically the material circumstances and the private property relationships that give rise to violence.

The instruments for producing and distributing wealth are owned and controlled by a minority, and this results in the economic necessity of the majority seeking their employment and their livelihood from the class that are in legal possession of the means of life. All the products that are essential for survival, from the basics of food, clothing and shelter to the conglomeration of other necessities and so-called luxuries that comprise modern living, are produced by the workers, but owned by the capitalists up to the time that they are sold and conveyed to new owners in the market place. Access to their ownership and use is dependent upon an exchange of commodities for money and the majority receive wages, in return for the sale of their labor power, which enables them to purchase a limited quantity of the necessities of life, generally of sub-standard quality, approximating to their cost of production as workers. Given this economic basis of society in which some are owners of wealth and most are not, and wherein life itself depends upon access and consumption of certain essentials and amenities, is it not logical to state that such conditions will result in perpetual antagonisms, strife, animosities and deprivations, and that as a direct consequence violence can be expected to erupt? The socialist abhors violence, condemns it, and warns his fellow workers against its use, and we claim that this is not the road to travel in order to solve social problems. But at the same time we are assuredly justified in asserting that the private property relationships of capitalism produce a veritable fertile, never ceasing breeding ground for violence when individuals decide to ignore legalities, and

attempt to solve their difficulties by taking or stealing, and not buying, and being prepared to suffer the consequences if they are caught. In a private property society there will always be those who are ready to break the law and rebel, and commit acts of violence if necessary, in order to satisfy their material requirements. The threat of punishment has never proved a deterrent.

The socialist has a most simple solution to the problem of stealing. Legally and democratically, as the outcome of a mandate for socialism, remove the ownership of the means of production and distribution from the minority comprising the capitalist class and transfer the title of all the factories, mines, mills, distribution centers, transportation, agricultural resources, to every single man, woman and child living on the face of the earth. We call this common ownership. It will be accomplished on an international basis and the whole of society will democratically control and operate the instruments for producing and distributing wealth by and in the interests of all. Access to goods and services will be completely free and unfettered and the wages system and money will have been abolished. When you take a trip into your kitchen and help yourself to food it would be ridiculous to say you are stealing from your wife or your children or yourself. In exactly the same fashion it will be impossible to steal under socialism because you will be the co-owner together with all your fellow human beings of all society's wealth, and you will be entitled to take whatever you need at any time to satisfy your requirements.

Concurrent with the establishment of socialism all crimes of violence related to private property issues will have disappeared, and any acts of violence that might occur will be perpetrated by demented mentalities that are hangovers from capitalism, and they will require not punishment, but medical attention.

Capitalism generates competition and insecurity that produces a variety of violent acts. Workers compete with each other for jobs and seniority; capitalists compete with each other for markets; nations, on behalf of their respective ruling classes, compete with each other for trade routes and spheres of influence. Capitalists and workers are in an unceasing struggle over compensation, hours of labor and working conditions. All these circumstances, related directly to private property issues, can and do result in violent conflicts. Individual acts of personal aggression and murder. The eruption of violence during strikes when organized strike-breakers are used. And the ultimate horror of terrorism and war.

Is it not ironical that the greatest violence under capitalism is produced by legalized violence, and not by the acts of rebellious individuals or minority groups? The wars of capitalism have given rise to forms of human and material devastation that have reached new plateaus in man's inhumanity to his fellow creatures. What could be more violent and repugnant to human decency and feelings than atomic warfare, flame throwing, napalm bombing and similar atrocities - all perpetrated and sanctified under the guise of "legality" and false rationalizations. If you are sincerely and truly opposed to violence we suggest that you investigate the case for socialism and quickly eliminate capitalism, because the history of the 20th century will prove that legalized violence, in the form of war, is a way of life under capitalism and is inseparable from its operation.

The state, which comprises amongst its components the army, navy, air force and police, is a coercive power over individuals, and exists solely to preserve the rights of the ruling class and the institution of private property. It is a machine that is the embodiment of force and conquest, violence, which is at all times ready to unleash destruction should conditions warrant. The real threat that has the potential for mankind's total devastation comes from the organized legal violence of the modern state. Compared to this the acts of illegal violence are puny and inconsequential.

Socialists protest the violent climate of capitalism, but we despise the hypocrisy of the politicians, so-called leaders, and "captains of industry" who on the one hand decry violence, but on the other capitalize on it, and refuse to place the blame on the system which they so zealously protect. "Crime does not pay" for most of the criminals but it certainly helps to produce abundant profits for the media. If you eliminated, without warning, violence-oriented shows from T.V. the networks would initially be temporarily sabotaged and in danger of collapse until they were able to make the necessary adjustments. The president of the American Medical Association recently said "T.V. violence is a mental health problem", and he added that for young people this violence significantly changes their perceptions of the real world. It was estimated by a researcher at the University of Washington that the average American child will have seen over 15,000 murders on T.V. by the time he finishes high school.

In 1976 advertising revenues for the networks totalled \$33 billion, as reported in a local newspaper, so presumably violence is paying off for someone. One might say



speculate on what the judges, criminal lawyers, police, prison wardens, movie producers, armament manufacturers, would do without violence and crime. Socialism of course will assure them, together with everyone else, of a socially useful occupation that will afford much greater happiness and pleasure than merchandising, profiteering and earning a living from the violent behaviour patterns produced by an inhuman, outmoded system. Solutions for dealing with acts of violence are impossible to find as long as capitalism continues. Penalties and punishment are obviously not the answer. If they were there would not be a problem. In fact it has been conjectured that many crimes are committed because of a self-destructive suicidal approach which the criminal adopts because he just does not care about the outcome of his actions and welcomes his confinement or execution as it will put an end to his troubles. In such cases the penalties can act as an incitement and not a restraint. Most large American cities today have become, in their downtown areas especially, places of terror at night. The capital city of Washington, and New York, are graphic examples of the incapability of the system to produce a safe environment for its members in the two leading communities of the nation. Who would dare to take a stroll through Central Park, New York, late at night? An article in the New York Times Magazine, March 1970, was headed with these words, and I quote, "You must be out of your mind to be out alone after dark in a neighbourhood like this", end of quote. This warning was spoken supposedly by a passer-by to a woman in Washington. She then looked up and there was the White House! Muggings and personal acts of violence are part of the price one has to pay for living under capitalism - solutions cannot be found in dealing with effects. Practising the art of self-defense, Karate, Judo and Kung Fu is neither practical nor desirable for most of us. Learning about socialism is! The World Socialist Party and its companion parties abroad hold that violence is not a method that can be used for the achievement of socialism. We emphatically claim that its use is not only completely undesirable and unnecessary but suicidal from a working class standpoint. The state machine controls every department of the armed forces, and the state in its turn is controlled by Congresses or Parliaments. Every law and enactment that relates to the financial maintenance of these forces is passed either by a Congress or a Parliament. These armed forces exist solely to preserve the present order of society. They contain powers of destruction that range from the policeman's club to the atomic bomb, and to compete with such awesome might is

unthinkable. Every representative in Congress or Parliament has been voted into position, and to date all members have stood for the preservation and retention of capitalism, because the working class, comprising approximately 8/10 of the population, have seen fit to support the existing system. As and when the workers become socialists they will send their delegates to the seats of power with a mandate for socialism, and when the socialist delegates comprise a majority the state machine will come under the control of the World Socialist Parties and, as stated in our Declaration of Principles, it will then be converted from an instrument of oppression into the agent of emancipation. Such a procedure will vest the coercive power of the state into the control of the majority of the population through their socialist organizations, and will prevent and discourage acts of violence by any opposing minority. The vote or the ballot will be used democratically and legally to eliminate capitalism and establish socialism. The ruling class who have so diligently quilt and maintained an intricate system of laws and legalities to preserve their position will peacefully and non-violently receive a final exquisite taste of the quintessence of their own legal apparatus which will be utilized, and simultaneously dismantled, with the international declaration of socialism, and the establishment of the common ownership of the means of production and distribution.

To achieve a system of society that will convey to mankind a quality of democracy never previously attained, necessitates that the methods used be democratic and without violence. The means we use will guarantee the integrity of our objective, and the numerical strength of a socialist working class will insure our ultimate success.

Help us, and yourselves, achieve this victory for humanity as soon as possible. Contact us with your comments, questions, and contributions if you so desire. Finally, when you become socialists, join with us.

This broadcast has been brought to you by:  
The World Socialist Party Of The United States.

295 Huntington Avenue, Boston, Mass. 02115.

Thank you for listening.

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## EUROPEAN REPORT 1978

### SOCIALISME MONDIAL

We tried in 1978 to get *Socialisme Mondial* out on a more regular basis. It is now subtitled as a "quarterly" and in fact three issues (SM 8, 9 and 10) were produced in 1978, which is not bad at all considering that only 7 issues had appeared over the previous five years.

*Socialisme Mondial*, unfortunately, still consists mainly of translations from English and only very few of the articles are written in French. There were three comrades and sympathizers (whose mother-tongue was French) who regularly helped out with the translation work in 1978. Maybe some of them can eventually be persuaded to write something in French themselves.

The material for *Socialisme Mondial* is typed out in Europe and sent to Canada where it is "printed" by the Victoria comrades.

Last year there were 27 paid subscribers to *Socialisme Mondial*; a further 14 copies were sent free to sympathizers and in exchange for other magazines. Sales through the two bookshops (one in Brussels, the other in Metz) which stock *Socialisme Mondial* were minimal. Thus the bulk of each issue of *Socialisme Mondial* continue to be sent to those who reply to the small ads.

These ads were placed, as in the past, in the monthly *Le Monde Diplomatique* and, for the first time, in *Le Monde de l'éducation*. In all about 260 replies were received in the course of 1978. Each was sent a copy of *Socialisme Mondial* and a subscription form. This is the main source of contacts and subscriptions.

2000 leaflets were printed and distributed (mainly in Eastern France: Metz, Thionville and Longwy) for the French general elections in March and another 2000 for the Belgian elections in December (distributed mainly in Southern Belgium: Liège and around Arlon).



## REVOLUTION

The word Revolution puts fear into the minds of many people. There have been many books written on the subject, and the TV has brought into the homes of viewers the scenes of bloodshed, assassinations, destruction of property and street battles, of countries changing from a backward peasant economy to one of industrialization; most of which are ruthless dictatorships replacing one despot for another, some of which are called "communist" revolutions. The newspapers have frequently given news and views on Cuba, China and Russia, and whether the latter is called the dictatorship of the proletariat or not, it is in many respects more tyrannical than the Czarist regime.

The news media take every opportunity to discredit the writings of Marx and Engels - who put the ideas of socialism on a scientific basis - by insinuating or openly stating that "marxists" or "communists" are the cause of these uprisings. The news media nearly always refers to Russia as "Communist Russia" and China as "Red China", and these repeated lies are accepted as the truth by politically naive people.

A recent example was the uprising in Iran. We saw on TV thousands of poverty stricken workers marching the streets with their demands that the Shah must go. They had enough of the terrorist regime of the Shah, backed by his army and the fear of torture by his secret police, the dreaded Savak, who were trained by the Central Intelligence Agency of the USA. In this respect the workers knew what they wanted and the Shah had to flee the country, of course syphoning away the 22 billion he had taken from the pockets of the workers. (It is interesting to note that many of the soldiers joined the ranks of the demonstrators).

At the time of writing, the Savak has been disbanded, and several of them have been executed.

As could be predicted, the Fedayeen, the "communist party" of Iran, would enter the picture via the CBS and CBC news, and the daily newspapers. It should be obvious to any thinking person that the overwhelming majority of the fanatically religious demonstrators on the streets of Iran, if they had heard of Marx, had never read one of his books. Let us put it in perspective. The UN estimate of the population of Iran in 1974 was 31,960,000, and Walter Cronkite on the CBS news February 23rd, 1979, estimated the membership of the Fedayeen as between 20,000 and 25,000, which is between .06 and .078 percent of the population. It can be assumed that the population of Iran would have increased from 1974 to present time, which would decrease the percentage even more.

The Iranians knew what they did not want, but it is not clear in the press reports what the workers demands are and whether they will be heard. It would be tragic after the bitter and bloody struggle, if the regime which the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini is setting up - and the workers demanded and got his return to

Iran - is in the months and years to come as tyrannical as the Shah's reign. In the event of a coup by the Fedayeen, backed by Russia, their rule would be no less tyrannical. No doubt, Russia is assessing the risks involved for the spoils are great.

The events in Iran are vital to the interest of the capitalist countries of the world for they all have their greedy eyes on the Iranian oil wells. On February 26th the Toronto Star reported on the front page, under the heading "We'll Fight To Guard Oil U.S. Warns: The United States is ready to go to war to protect its oil supplies from the Middle East. 'We will take action that's appropriate, including the use of military force, in protection of our vital interests' Defence Secretary Harold Brown said", and farther down the column: "The United States might establish a military base or adapt a Persian Gulf port for its warships, Schlesinger said. A third of the non-Communist world's oil supplies pass through the Strait of Hormuz at the eastern end of the Gulf. The future will show who will control Iran, and for how long.

One can well understand if people say "Well if that's Revolution, I want nothing to do with it", and one can well understand why Communism and Marxism have become dirty words in the minds of many workers. The head fixers, the backroom social psychologist, and the dangerous "Marxist", "Marxist Leninist" and "Communist" parties have deliberately created political confusion, with their insistence on dictatorship, and their maxim of "the means justify the ends" when ends and means cannot be separated. They do not define what is Socialism or Communism, but ambiguously state that they want workers' control. Russia is a prime example of workers' control, and who wants it!

So we are faced with the problem of Revolution, and whether we like it or not, they come and go transforming backward agrarian societies to eventually highly sophisticated capitalist states.

The powerful capitalist countries throughout the world are gravely concerned with their markets or their loss of markets, for to survive as capitalists it is imperative that they sell their commodities. They also have their greedy eyes on the mineral wealth of other countries. To this end they insiduously aid in creating uprising and revolutions - not in their own countries of course - so that they or their henchmen gain control. The bloodshed and suffering of workers mean nothing to them, although the rituals and lip service are there for those who are glibbie to accept them without question.

Revolutions and uprisings are inevitable, as this is the nature of present day society. As can be seen there are frequent struggles between powerful capitalist nations to control the wealth of a country in revolt.

Society is divided into classes, where inevitable conflicts break out between the owners of wealth production (the minority) and the producers of wealth (the majority). The

Socialist Party of Canada and its companion parties in other parts of the world, are organized to overthrow Capitalism, not to destroy it, and to replace it with a new society, Socialism, in which class conflicts and the possibility of revolutions will no longer exist, for it will be a classless society.

Our object, which is published in all our literature, is: The establishment of a system of society based upon the common ownership and democratic control of the means and instruments for producing and distributing wealth by and in the interest of society as a whole.

Socialism is democracy in its fullest sense, for all will co-operate throughout the world for the benefit of all, and revolutions, poverty, and wars will be a nightmare of the past. We do not pander to the concept of reforms or in the "inevitability of gradualism", for reforms by their very nature do not solve the problems facing society.

Many workers now accept the fact that there is very little difference between Conservatives, Liberal and New Democratic parties. On TV we see politicians in parliament arguing and scoring debating points, or avoiding questions. It can be clearly seen that they all represent big business, and the interests of the working class (the majority) are ignored. In fact the present M.P.'s are there to maintain the status quo and the multinational interest of big business, besides feathering their own nests into the bargain.

The Socialist Party of Canada and its companion parties are organized to change society from private ownership of wealth production to common ownership. We are the Opposition. We ask you to examine our case. There is no need for a bloody revolution. You have the vote, and it is there for you to use wisely. Ideas do not remain in isolation, so organize with us to elect Socialist Party candidates, for one purpose and one purpose only, to replace Capitalism by Socialism. Are you worthy of the task? Ignore us at your peril.

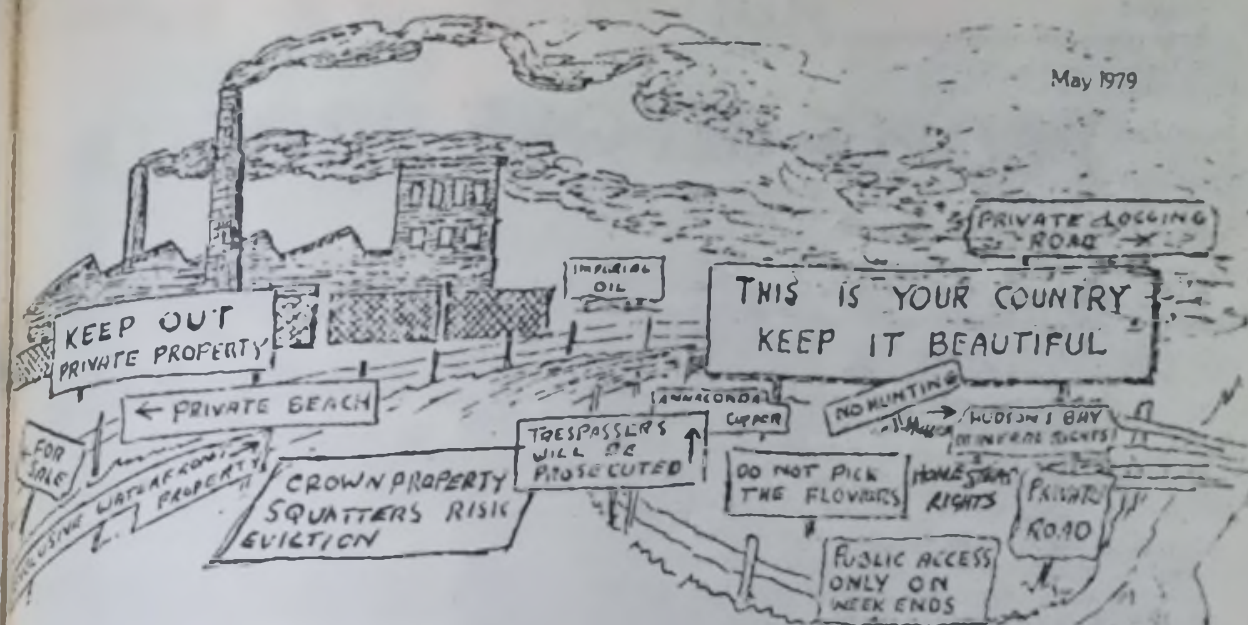
Sid Carr

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A speaker - lecturer from our Socialist Party Of Great Britain companion organization will be visiting in late September and early October. Cyril May will oblige with indoor or outdoor meetings - radio or TV whenever such engagements can be obtained. Possibilities exist in Victoria, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal. For details, contact the group or Local in your area.



May 1979



SPC Federal Election Leaflet

## PROFITS BEFORE PEOPLE

Many words will be written and spoken, many grandiose promises will be made by politicians, and millions of dollars will be spent during the present election campaign. The publicity experts have been called in to create the right image for the respective political parties, and the TV, radio and press will be working at full blast to convince you that it does make a fundamental difference for whom you vote.

The news media is very powerful, and the electorate are confused and frustrated for they have heard it all before, and no matter who they vote in they know that promises will be broken.

It is predictable during the next five years, that there will be political scandals and conflicts of interest where fortunes will be won or lost, when again we will be facing another election and will be confronted with the same problems all over again.

Should we not ask ourselves, who these glib politicians really represent? Do they really represent you? Or do they represent the interests of the capitalist

class who own the multinational corporations, conglomerates, banks, etc., etc., etc., and who are interested in one thing, and one thing only, for you to elect their representatives to parliament so that they can maintain their power and privilege and continue their greedy search for ever increasing profits.

It matters not whether you vote Liberal, Conservative or NDP, for no matter how sincere they may be - and this is questionable - you cannot run a society, which puts profits before people, in the interests of the people who are being exploited. (NDP please note). These glib tongued politicians are not altruistic. They are not interested in your problems. For them it is a very lucrative professional career, and you have been the stooges who have elected them. You have no right of recall if they endanger the country or break their election promises, and if you should register a protest vote against the various political parties, because you feel that they do not represent your interest, it is never counted. The situation seems hopeless, doesn't it? BUT YOU DO HAVE AN ALTERNATIVE.

# PEOPLE BEFORE PROFITS

A group of well informed and dedicated people, workers like you and I, have for years studied the economic nature of today's society. We think we have the answers to the problems which face the majority of us; unemployment, the hopeless situation of the aged living on meagre pensions, radiation and pollution, the possibility of a nuclear war, and the problems of working people who produce all the wealth, but are rationed by the wages they receive.

At the moment, there are only a handful of us in Canada, but we are organized in America, England, Ireland, Austria, New Zealand, Sweden and Jamaica.

We are dedicated and organized to replace capitalism by a classless society, where all people will have the same rights and privileges; a society in which we will all work for the common good of all. It will be a society of cooperation, and all will receive the benefits that society can give.

We cannot overthrow capitalism by ourselves. We need your help, but unlike other political parties we need you to acquire knowledge and understanding of present day society, so that we can all help to build a truly democratic society which we call Socialism. It is not a question of destroying society; capitalism is already on this perilous journey, but a question of rebuilding by changing the foundations to "common ownership of wealth production".

Parliament is the seat of power and let us use that power for the benefit of all, so that poverty may give place to comfort, privilege to equality and slavery to freedom.

For too long you have put your thinking out in pawn to leaders, and we all have to suffer the results.

Let us put People before Profits.

We are the Opposition.

We think we are worthy of the task ahead. What about you?

For further information write to Socialist Party of Canada, Box 4280, Station A, Victoria, B.C., Canada, V8X 3X8

Sample JOURNALS — Socialist Fulcrum, Socialist Standard, Western Socialist.

PAMPHLETS — Perspective For World Socialism:

\$1.00. Reflections on Religion - 50¢. World of Abundance - 50¢. Questions Of The Day - \$1.25. Lenin Distorts Marx - \$1.50. Historical Materialism - \$1.50

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## INFORMATION CENTRES

**VICTORIA** - General Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Canada, P.O. Box 4280, Station A, Victoria, B.C., V8X 3X8.

For local activities phone 382-5927, 479-4665 or 479-2626.

**VANCOUVER** — Box 1031, P.O. Station A, Vancouver, B.C., V6C 2P1 or telephone 688-3250.

**WINNIPEG** — P.O. Box 115, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

**MONTREAL** — Party Socialiste du Canada, Centre d'informations, Case Postale 244, Pointe-aux-Trembles, Quebec H1B 4K3, Canada.

**TORONTO** - Sidney Catt, 97 Waverley Rd., Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M4L 3T2

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GEC meets on the third Thursday of each month, 8:00 p.m. at 1090 Lodge Ave.



## THE B.C. ELECTION, COMMENTS

There is a gulf between the NDP leaders and their rank and file behind, e.g., those who rise to the bait. The bait being that capitalism can be operated in the interest of those it exploits for profit making, if only the victims will believe what the

Social Democratic leaders say, as opposed to the deceptions of the gifted heads of the other parties. But the great men fall on their faces like all leaders, when in government; they have little influence on the judgement of the system.

In B.C. former Premier Dave Barrett was replaced at the helm because he couldn't

stem the ebb tide of lost credibility due to rising joblessness and soup bone cutbacks. (Same with Schreyer in Manitoba. The impotency of leaders extends to superstition. Ed summoned his wife to find his "lucky shoes" to wear during his lost election campaign, the ones he had worn during his previous victory contest. They had positively no effect on the declining economy and his dying popularity as a magician).

It matters little that the NDP lost this time on a bigger vote percentage than the percentage that gave them the heights in '72. The Bennett/Barrett twins will be inseparable for some time, as Bennett assured the obedient of the land that they will be receiving good orders from the next term due to the strong NDP presence in the legislature.

The top echelon of both parties abhor being out of office. Bennett called the provincial poll for instance, in the midst of a federal election to gain some advantage in the race for votes as it was said. The first time the B.C. electorate had to bear a double load of the variety of double talk since 1949. Both sides stooped to some tall tales that even the daily press masters of the trade objected to.

The one that is likely to be remembered for a couple of days is the NDP candidates and campaign workers invading old folks' homes and telling them that if they voted Social Credit their institutions would be closed down and they would have no place to live. This caused much consternation and weeping among the spent wage-slaves. To the vote-gatherers it mattered not that the NDP had caused many hospital cutbacks when they were the government and would continue them if returned to office. But the army of vultures from all sides who converged on the homes for the elderly may as well have carried ballot boxes with them.

Their unprincipled scramble for votes was obvious.

The NDP was also not averse in some areas to encouraging and even helping some Conservative to run, in the hope of splitting the "right-wing" vote.

### THAT 4 PERCENT

On the lack-of-a-master problem, popularly known as unemployment, two successful young NDPers in the Victoria riding used an argument based on research by a Dr. John McAllum of Simon Fraser University. He said that if the Social Credit government in 1976 to 78 had used a policy the NDP would have used, instead of their own, that unemployment in the province would have been less by 4 percent. An example of how remote the status quo parties are from the reality of majority problems. The lottery-like position without the lottery prize says vote for the NDP and you stand once chance in 200 of becoming steadily exploited.

The penchant for taking advantage of the political ignorance and desperation of the workers permeates the ruling strata of all capitalist parties. For instance, the Social Democrats and the "Communists" of Iceland, not long ago vastly increased their number of seats in that government by campaigning for freedom to own dogs and being against NATO.

These comments have accentuated the NDP, not because it is much worse than the others but because it pretends to be different, and to have the solution to the workers' problems. The evidence provided by the day to day struggle points to the ending of the class division as the solution. That is the freeing of the useful majority, by the establishment of Socialism.

.....

### POLITICIANS OBEY

Politics to the old money seems an irrelevant confidence game, played by disagreeable people in unfashionable places. The new money, obliged to pay generally higher prices for larger numbers of Congressmen, concedes the unpleasantness of the game but not its irrelevance.

(Saturday Evening Post, Dec. 30/67)

"The inhumanity of modern society has made tragedies out of most people," says anthropologist Ashley Montagu. (Speaking to the 22th annual conference of the Ontario Association for Early Childhood Education) Victoria Times, May 7/79

## ALCOHOLISM, ALIENATION AND THE SOVIETS

A recent article in the Toronto Star newspaper claims that on any given Monday between 30 and 40 percent of the Soviet workforce will be too drunk or too hung-over to put in a good day's work. No special occasion - just an ordinary Monday morning.

This estimate by Soviet factory managers is one of a number of startling statistics issued recently as part of the Soviet Union's campaign against alcoholism.

"It is our worst problem", one official said. Drunkenness is blamed for crime, divorce, accidents, inefficiency, juvenile delinquency and economic stagnation. Whatever the causes, it may be that the Soviet Union leads the world in alcoholism. A study by the "Harvard University Russian Research Centre" put per-capita consumption at 6.33 quarts of pure alcohol a year, compared with 4.75 quarts in France and the United States. The Soviet rate was estimated to be rising at 6 percent a year. (Toronto Star, Monday, April 2, 1979.)

This article is only a further indication of the ever-increasing alienation that the Russian workers have to put up with. The Soviets have no exclusive claim to this increasing problem of alcoholism. In every country in the world the alienation of capitalism, whether the Soviet Union, France, Great Britain, United States or Canada, demoralizes and dementes the workers regardless of race, colour or sex. Under the alienation of capitalism, (whether state capitalism of the so-called Communist countries or the so-called free-enterprise of other countries), the effects are the same. Until workers everywhere move to abolish capitalism worldwide, the alienation of capitalism will persist, alcoholism being only but one of its many facets.

Johnny Roberts



# "JIMMY" BROWNRIGG

WESTERN SOCIALIST  
MAY 1, 1938  
Electr...  
RADIO STATION CKWX  
J. A. BROWNRIGG

"Jimmy", as he used to introduce himself, was one of the few surviving members of the first Vancouver Local of the present SPC, and a party member until his recent death in his late eighties. He joined what was known as the Marxist Group in 1930, with headquarters at 808 Homer Street. It included Sangster, Burrough, Craig, Black, Young and Fairclough. The group became Vancouver Local No. 1 with the formation of the Party the following year and attained a membership of 32 or more by 1935.

During the hectic days of the '30's he was active, not only as a speaker but enterprising in making personal contacts for propaganda purposes. He wrote occasionally for the Western Socialist when it was the joint publication of the Socialist Party of Canada and the World Socialist Party of the U.S. In later years he collected a following in a cafe which he practically made his headquarters. His forte was economics and he taught some classes up to the post World War II period.

He was critical of newcomers joining the Party without adequate grounding in the basics of theory, as sometimes happened, particularly in the case of the group of young people who were bootled out of the CCF and made up the majority of the new 1238 Granville St. local about the beginning of the fifties. At least the event was graphic proof of the uselessness of "boring from within" to try to make a non-Socialist organization into a Party with working class emancipation as its sole objective. Which is what the group of young individuals were generally trying to do with the CCF before they were expelled by the Provincial executive. This "reform" local of the SPC as it later became known at times, developed speakers, and with the more fundamental work of some older members, carried on feverish activity for a few years, including running a candidate in a provincial election. It folded, with the former CCFers drifting into oblivion. Jimmy, who helped found the initial group, dropped out when the decision was made to hurriedly form a local of the Party without first going through a season of economics and history classes. He will be long remembered.

## IN BED TOGETHER.

### IN 1938 AND NOW

The C.C.F. has evidently decided that it is not going to be out-manoeuvred by the Communist Party in the laudable work of uniting the anti-Socialist elements in society. For the forthcoming provincial election in Saskatchewan, "Social Creditors, Conservatives and the C.C.F. decided to join hands to nominate on 'unity' candidate in the Wilkie riding." (Free Press, April 21st.) The same report states that S. N. Homer, an independent, already endorsed as Conservative candidate, has also been endorsed by the C.C.F., and will represent both parties in the Milestone constituency.

But the C.C.F. will have to get up early in the morning if it is going to put one over on our wide-awake Communists, for the same report also states that, in Regina, "T. G. McManus, 36-year old provincial secretary of the Communist Party, was nominated ... by the Labor-Progressive unity group, along with Rev. S. B. East, 66-year old Regina alderman, United Church clergyman.

The Western Socialist, May/38.

WHAT'S YOUR  
FORMULA FOR  
INSECURITY?

A STEADY  
JOB



1914

CANADA

Russia's Bolshevik Conservatives must have copied their true-blue Canadian brothers.

"One ingenious solution for the unemployment problems of 1914 was made available by the outbreak of war. Rather than provide municipal relief, welfare authorities arrested all those whose origins were in the ramshackle Austrian

Empire and forced the federal government to open internment camps for them where they could be compelled to work as slave labor, clearing bush. Few, if any of the men - Poles, Ukrainians, Czechs, Slovaks or Croats - had the faintest loyalty to the Hapsburg Empire and everyone at the time knew it. What local Tory politicians wanted was a cheap way of getting rid of an unemployment problem."

(Commonwealth, May 2/79).

Capitalism's profit motive forces both its left-wing and its right-wing governments to minimize labor costs.



The old Socialist Party of Canada was quite a mixed bag. What eventually became its official organ, THE WESTERN CLARION, contained articles from SLP types to reformers to even some pretty sound socialists. Some of the old articles are reproduced here for interest and education, for if the working class do not learn from yesterday's errors they are apt to repeat them.

## Vintage Views

Western Clarion, Jan. 11, 1911. Within the old SPC some members were concerned about the high demands for "Socialist purity" from one Moses Baritz. A letter to the Clarion on Baritz' fastidiousness begins:

### "THE BARITZ BOMB"

Comrade Editor: - So the Toronto bomb has exploded. Baritz was a very dominant and active lecturer in the Toronto Local. This is probably just before Baritz took the Local away, for a time, to form The Revolutionary Socialist Party of North America in protest against the Reformism of the old Party.

The writer goes on to complain that ... if we waited till all comrades have an S.P.G.B. (Socialist Party of Great Britain) standard before admitting them to locals, we would wait a considerable length of time. Before they joined the Party ... most were anything but good Socialists ... our education dated from the time we joined the organization.

The writer goes on to complain about Baritz' influence in that ... the Toronto local ... are behind Baritz to a man, giving lie to the oft repeated maxim that Socialism in Canada was purely a western phenomena.

The letter was signed, Fred S. Falkener, Great Falls, Montana.

But there was quite a force within the Party to keep it free of reformism  
Western Clarion, April 8, 1911.

### QUESTIONS OF THE DAY from

The Socialist Party of Great Britain,

with additional chapters on -  
Women and Class,  
The Chinese Revolution -  
Inflation and Unemployment  
\$1.25.

## KEEP THE MOVEMENT CLEAR

... there has been a lot of controversy about the tactics of the Party and some comrades seem to think that the S.P.C. is merging into the same position as the I.L.P., a reform party, more interested in the commodity struggle than they are in the class struggle.

... learn from the European countries the fallacy of remedial legislation whilst the capitalist class hold the whip - power of government.

... we who are trade unionists are forced to take part in the commodity struggle on the industrial field. But Socialists, elected to Parliament by class conscious (workers) can voice the opinions of Socialists and need not bother about "better conditions" for the workers here and now - which is impossible under capitalism.

King Capital, driven by capitalist development is the great leveller and the working class have a hell of a time ahead of them. Comrades, let the working class answer at us, it is hard to bear when you are telling them the way out of their misery. ...

The writer is quite clear about how this is to be achieved - by majority conscious political action. It is up to our class to wrest from the master class the whole means of wealth production by political action ...

Alex Lyon

And yet with sympathy I see the guilty son of toil.

And heartily congratulate the tiller of the soil.

I like the miner in the mine, the sailor on the sea.

Because up to five hundred pounds they sail and, mine for me.

For me their toil is taxed unto that annual extent.

According to the holy shibboleth of Five -Per-Cent.

So get ten thousand pounds, my friend, in any way you can.

And leave your future wellers to the noble Working Men.

He'll buy you suits of Harris tweed, an airdale and a car.

Your golf clubs and your morning Times, your whiskey and cigar.

He'll cosily install you in a cottage by a stream.

With every modern comfort, and a garden that's a dream.

Or if your tastes be urban, he'll provide you with a flat.

Secluded from the clamour of the proletariat.

With pictures, music, easy chairs, a table of good cheer.

A chap can manage nicely on five hundred pounds a year.

And though around you painful signs of industry you view.

Why should you work when you can make your money work for you.

So I'll get down upon my knees and bless the Working Men.

Who offers me a life of ease through all my mortal span;

Whose loans are loan to make me fat, who slaves to keep me free.

Who dies in his prime to let me round the century;

Whose wife and children toil in turn until their strength is spent.

That I may live in idleness upon my five-per-cent.

And if at times they curse me, why should I feel any blame?

For in my place I know that they would do the very same.

Aye, though they hoist a flag that's red on Sunday afternoon.

Just offer them ten thousand pounds and see them change their tune.

So I'll enjoy my dividends and live my life with zeal.

And bless the mighty man who first INVESTED INTEREST.

Robert Service

Written at a time when the pound and the dollar were more substantial than they are today.

## FIVE-PER-CENT

Because I have ten thousand pounds I sit upon my stern.

And leave my living tranquilly for other folks to earn.

For in some procreative way that isn't very clear.

Ten thousand pounds will breed, they say, five hundred every year.

So as I have a healthy hate of economic strife.

I mean to stand aloof from all the balance of my life.



One of a series of historical essays on Radio Station CFMS, Victoria, reveals the national interest as it is. (H-6-79)

## WHAT ARE COUNTRIES FOR?

"On this date, May 11th in 1880, Sir Alexander Gait was appointed First High Commissioner to Britain.

Few men had done more to create the Dominion of Canada, - and yet he was a man whose business interests took precedence over his political activities. But no one saw more clearly than Gait, that business in ALL the widely scattered colonies in British North America would be more profitable, and everyone therefore more prosperous, if all were joined in Confederation. To that end Gait devoted much of his life - the foremost of many men who, as one historian has said, "were pushed by their own self interests to see beyond the perimeters of their own colony to seek wider shores of trade and prosperity".

Then AFTER Confederation, Gait pressed strongly for full national status for the Dominion.

He has been praised by historians for the persuasive mastery of his arguments, his economy of speech, the neatness of his solutions; but it was the practical business common-sense of this successful Real-estate and Railway executive that stands out most clearly across the years. He continued to employ this talent in England as he worked hard to establish the right of Canada to negotiate her own trade agreements with foreign nations, in his office of First High Commissioner to London - to which Gait was appointed on this date".

(*Their Italics*).

The only discrepancy above being the archaic capitalist deception that what is good for General Bullmoose is good for everybody. Aside from the declining condition of the present general majority, the boundary lines of Canada were drawn without regard for the interests of indigenous peoples (everyone more prosperous?) over a century ago. The forty-ninth parallel separated west coast tribes from one another. It also split Blackfeet and Assiniboine on the plains, as well as decimating their populations through starvation and smallpox. A similar "prosperity" hit the Indian tribes of Ontario and the east coast. Eskimos of Alaska must

salute the U.S. flag while those of Canada rot on the welfare benefits of Canadian capital, etc. The now outmoded division of this technologically global village into geopolitical entities is for the making of profits only.

### COMPANION PARTIES

#### SOCIALIST PARTY OF AUSTRALIA

P.O. Bo. 1440 Melbourne  
P.O. Box 2291 Sydney N.S.W.

#### AUSTRIA: BUND DEMOKRATISCHER SOZIALISTEN

Gussriegelstrasse 50, A-1100, Vienna

#### WORLD SOCIALIST PARTY OF IRELAND

13 Queens Square,  
Belfast, Northern Ireland

#### SOCIALIST PARTY OF NEW ZEALAND

P.O. Box 38062 Petone  
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Literature available,  
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### SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

**OBJECT** The establishment of a system of society based upon the common ownership and democratic control of the means and instruments for producing and distributing wealth by and in the interest of the whole community.

### DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

The Socialist Party of Canada holds:

1. That Society as at present constituted is based upon the ownership of the means of living (i.e. land, factories, railways, etc.), by the capitalist or master class, and the consequent enslavement of the working class, by whose labour alone wealth is produced.
2. That in society, therefore, there is an antagonism of interests, manifesting itself as a class struggle, between those who possess but do not produce, and those who produce but do not possess.
3. That this antagonism can be abolished only by the emancipation of the working class from the domination of the master class, by the conversion into the common property of society of the means of production and distribution, and the democratic control by the whole people.
4. That as in the order of social evolution the working class is the last class to achieve a freedom, the emancipation of the working class will involve the emancipation of all mankind, without distinction of race or sex.
5. That this emancipation must be the work of the working class itself.
6. That as the machinery of government, including the armed forces of the nation, can only to conserve the monopoly by the capitalist class of the wealth taken from the workers, the working class must organize consciously and politically for the conquest of the power of government, national and local, in order to use the machinery, including these forces, not as converted from an instrument of oppression to the agent of emancipation and the overthrow of privilege, aristocratic and plutocratic.
7. That as all political parties are but the expression of class interests, and as the interests of the working class is diametrically opposed to the interests of all sections of the master class, its party seeking working-class emancipation must be hostile to every other party.
8. That the Socialist Party of Canada therefore enters the field of political action determined to wage war against all other political parties, whether alleged labour or avowedly capitalist, and to urge upon the members of the working class to stand under their banner to the end that a social revolution may be wrought in the system which deprives them of the fruits of their labour, and that poverty may give place to contentment, plenty to equality, and slavery to freedom.

Socialist Party of Canada  
P.O. Box 4280V, Stn. A  
Victoria, B.C. V8X 3X8

479-4665 479-2626  
382-5927



# BRITAIN'S USELESS CLASS

## UNMASKED

"We're fighting for a living wage,  
End low pay in Public Services; Now  
only 42.40 basic." (N.U.P.E.)

"Selfish, irresponsible Strikers".  
(Archbishop of Canterbury).

One salient aspect of all the strike chaos in Britain during the winter of 1978-79, was the exposure of the ruling class as completely helpless dependents on those who perform the vital necessary tasks for the functioning of capitalist society.

When the working class withdrew their socially necessary labor power in the 1926 General Strike, concerted action by many Unions achieved a remarkable solidarity campaign which lasted for 9 days before capitulation by all except the gallant miners who stuck it out alone for another 7 months; It was then clear, as it is in 1979 that the ruling class are parasitic idlers depending on the socially useful working class for their survival. The Archbishop of Canterbury called members of N.U.P.E. (National Union of Public Employees) "Selfish, irresponsible strikers" (!) when he 'descended' from his 'celestial heights and world of ghosts', to become suddenly interested in this 'sordid material world'. Perhaps those citizens whom he attacked verbally for seeking a rise in their wages from 42.40 p to 60 weekly, for such tasks as emptying the material dustbins of spiritual hoaxers like Dr. Coggan, (the Archbishop), may get a bit more 'selfish' next time they cast their vote and opt for Socialism with ownership of the world by the people who are in it, thus ending class ownership of the means of life at last! Religion, the present day "Cry of the oppressed" along with its Westminster Abbey "Comedians" and their "three card trick" "Trinity" incantations, would then be a "thing of the past", while its perpetrators such as Archbishops could find useful work, perhaps emptying the dustbins of Socialism as a pleasant change from their previous parasitical existence! In addition to Dr. Coggan, we had another of his ilk who threw open his Liverpool church doors for all and sundry to come and ...wait for it ... "Appeal to a higher authority than the Government to solve the industrial crisis" (!) ... Asked when he expected any results from "God" he replied ... "It is in God's hands" ... However, so far, "God" is nowhere to be seen around the piles of garbage in the city streets - either with or without a shovel in "His Hands".

Apparently doubting the ability of "God" to solve the crisis, the "Daily Mail" of 2nd

February called for soldiers instead! quote: "Soldiers can dig graves to bury the dead. Soldiers can remove the mounds of garbage now creating a health hazard in some of our cities".

This of course is a time honoured trick of the ruling class in breaking strikes with workers dressed in khaki; but - 1979 is not 1926 and so the "troops" were kept in low profile.

While three of the four Unions involved in this 1979 strike action have now returned to work, the N.U.P.E. Union, (Like the miners in 1926) is still fighting on at time of writing (17 March). They represent groups of some of the lowest paid workers in Britain; in fact one of their pickets outside the Christie Cancer Hospital in Withington, Manchester told this writer that as a single man, he could scarcely "manage" on his pay and wondered how the married men fared. So it goes on and the tragedy is that these Union members do not yet see the urgent necessity of political action for Socialism, to end the disgrace of the wages system which breeds strikes, wars, dole queues, palaces, slums and a host of industrial diseases. Certainly they have demonstrated they can organize to haggle over the sale of their hides; it remains for them to join the socialist movement and capture the parliamentary seat of power, dismantling its coercive might and organize production for use, a simple task compared to the complexities of production for profit! It is a long time since the 1926 General strike. Sadly, the gallant 1926 struggle and hardship of the coal miners, has not yet been seen as the limited action over wages alone that it was and that something more is required to end the eternal wages/strikes syndrome and that something is - "ABOLITION OF THE WAGES SYSTEM".

From Manchester. Yours to that end,  
G. R. Russell (SPGB)

## Lenin DISTORTS Marx

A compilation of articles from a special issue of the Socialist Standard plus articles from other issues of that Journal of the Socialist Party of Great Britain, dealing with the history and nature of the Russian Revolution and Lenin's falsifying of Marx. Reprinted in pamphlet form by the SPC. L30

## THE CORPORATIONS KNOW WHO THEIR POLITICAL FRIENDS ARE

In 1977 the NDP received donations from the following corporations: "10,000 from Pitts Engineering Construction of Toronto; \$7,500 from the House of Seagram's; \$5,000 from Labatt Breweries; \$4,000 from Wood Gundy; \$3,000 from Corby Distilleries; and \$2,000 from the Toronto-Dominion Bank. (Maclean's 7/5/79) Total: \$102,800, which probably helped to finance a few of those quarterpage size daily newspaper advertisements supporting capitalist ideology. A few unions had their feet on the ground so far as not being able to distinguish between right and left, in the same year. They donated \$1,154 to the Liberal Party and \$432 to the Conservatives.

## VANCOUVER NEWSAGENTS selling the SOCIALIST STANDARD -monthly- SOCIALIST FULCRUM -quarterly-

Open To

Universal News  
132 E. Hastings St. 8 PM

Reading Center  
621 West Pender St. 6 PM  
Just East of Granville

Mail Book Bazaar  
890 Granville St. 2 PM  
Opp. Coronet Theatre

Mayfair News  
1545 W. Broadway 4 PM  
3 doors W. of Granville

Abrems Book Store  
736 Davis St. 6 PM  
Closed Sunday & Monday



## IN THE NEWS

### "PROSPERITY"

The current business boom and low unemployment in Tory Alberta and NDP Saskatchewan does not mean prosperity for all.

Edmonton city council plans an ordinance forcing poor paying utility rates to post a \$100.00 deposit before being connected to telephone, sewer and power facilities. In an attempt to cut \$832,000 annual losses by \$294,000. Could this be partly a spin-off from the old propaganda that state owned enterprises operated for the use of all the people?

Anyway, the low paid workers who qualify for the honor of interfering with the general profit gathering business via government operated enterprises are (1) those who have paid their bills with bad cheques twice in 6 months; (2) those who have used a false name; (3) customers who have had services disconnected twice in one year for non-payment and; (4) those who are uninsured in the same premises who switch names to avoid payment.

Edmonton is also becoming known as the illicit drug and crime center of the West. See? They told you - capitalism operated for everyone.

In the next-door province of Saskatchewan, poverty abounds too. What's new? But authorities at present are concerned about the mental breakdown problem and the province's antiquated laws dealing with it. Workers who occupy mental hospitals (or those in the line-ups waiting to get in) are not very profitable to the investing class, but instead are a smaller drain on their wealth. Who could blame Saskatchewan uranium miners for instance, for becoming distressed over wages, which like wages generally, only maintain mortgages on homes or payments on cars, for extracting uranium for foreign profits, for nuclear weapons and power stations, all under the name of "Socialism"?

The process of legally drugging mentally sick workers back to the "sanity" of producing profits for a parasitical owning class, apparently required updating in the only province of Canadian capitalism now being run by the NDP.

### RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL DICTATORSHIPS

The dictatorship in the Kremlin has recently become more chummy with the dictatorship in the Vatican. They have much in common. Both are committed to capitalism. In the sense of ordinary exploitation of the working class, both would fit the category of international

conglomerates. In addition to the Roman Church's vast industrial and financial holdings, (see Sacred Poverty of the Vatican, Fulcrum 3/78), it might be pointed out that some years ago an independent research organization conducted a test on U.S. corporations for operational efficiency. It was not surprising to learn that the U.S. chapter of the current Roman Empire was the most efficiently run business within the borders of the world's leading capitalist power. Ruble millionaires perhaps are more commonly known (930 of them back in 1953, 870 being multi-millionaires).

Both oligarchies are concerned about preserving the important source of profits, that is, the labor-power of the working class, as much as the contradictions of the system will allow. In the case of the Roman Catholic Church, this concern is voiced through the so-called preservation of life and being opposed to abortion. In the case of Russia's state capitalist rulers, especially in times of high market demand for the workers' energies, "heroic motherhood medals" are issued and other swindling inducements are offered to increase the birthrate. Both dictatorships, being motivated by the balance sheet, like to keep their exploitative material on hand as cheaply as possible. Religious escapism is much cheaper for instance, than financing huge mental homes. Hence the Kremlin is favorable to the opiate of the masses. It pays (30 million Russian Orthodox Christians in 1961). Consequently Pope John Paul II observed during his recent trip to his homeland that Catholicism has done very well under "Communism" in Poland. He preyed in a cell of Auschwitz for the millions who had died at the hands of the Nazis. He carefully made no mention of the millions who died in forced labor camps at the hand of the Bolsheviks. Mustn't offend one's host, the local bosses - Decorum at all times. Generally, the organized church is now openly involved in grasping the broken wretches of the system by the scruff of the neck, propping them on their feet and trying to breath some more useable labor time into their emphysemized lungs. An audience with the Pope is now a part of the itinerary of most Soviet emissaries, as they tour their international holdings of empire.

### ANOTHER CONTRADICTION

Representative Robert Doran of California has sponsored an amendment to the 1978 U.S. Defense Bill in Congress, which would prohibit the spending of any defence funds for the purpose of providing elections for

any member of the armed forces or their dependents. He explained he offered the amendment because: "It would be a tragic situation if defence funds were to be used to snuff out human life" (Monday Magazine, Dec. 17/78)

Meanwhile the British capitalist class is going to save money in the process of wasting wealth in the preservation of those other ingredients for profit, overseas markets and raw materials. They have started production of a cheap, disposable anti tank weapon. After using it to kill his fellow workers, the foot soldier can just throw the launcher away.

### ONLY POOR PEOPLE STARVE

The president of Worldwatch Institute told a symposium at the University of Western Ontario that, "Only poor people starve because they don't have the purchasing power needed to buy food" (Daily Colonist, April 2/79)

With the large increase in 1978 grain production, he noted the increasing gap between food supply and starvation. He said, "more than twice the needed amount of food is produced but it is inequitably distributed. Economic demand has priority over human demand." As the Companion Parties of Socialism have been saying for years.

Three days before the above report, another announced that Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova has won the \$50,000 Royal Bank of Canada award for her contributions to human welfare and the common good through her Unitarian Service Committee. For many years the USC has begged for contributions from poor people in Canada to help destitute children in undeveloped countries become efficient producers of goods and services for profit, among which is food, only for those who can pay. Lester Brown, Worldwatch's president, should investigate Socialism.

### PARTY PUBLICATIONS

QUESTIONS OF THE DAY (SPG) &  
PERSPECTIVE FOR WORLD  
SOCIALISM (WSP)  
REFLECTIONS ON RELIGION  
(WSP)  
SOCIALIST PARTY AND WAR  
(SPG)  
HISTORICAL MATERIALISM  
(SPG)  
RUSSIAN REVOLUTION (SPG)  
WORLD OF ABUNDANCE (SPG)  
LENIN DISTORTS MARX (SPG)